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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/828,255	04/21/2004	Masaya Sahashi	008312-0309369	4846

909 7590 01/24/2007  
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN, LLP  
P.O. BOX 10500  
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER
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PERVAN, MICHAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2629

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/24/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/828,255	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SAHASHI, MASAYA	
	<b>Examiner</b> Michael Pervan	<b>Art Unit</b> 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4/21/04 11/21/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 5-9 and 12-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shimotono (US 6,509,911; as submitted by applicant).

In regards to claims 1 and 8, Shimotono discloses an electronic apparatus capable of displaying same data on a plurality of display devices (col. 6, lines 22-25), comprising:

a setting unit configured to individually set on a setting screen a wait time for turning off power to each of the plurality of display devices (col. 6, lines 36-45); and

a power-off execution unit configured to turn off power to a display device, among the plurality of display devices, if a continuous time of a state in which connection/disconnection of each display device is unchanged reaches the wait time set for the display device (col. 6, line 62-col. 7, line 10; since the display is turned off after a period of idle time, there must be a power-off execution unit present).

In regards to claims 2 and 9, Shimotono discloses the electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the continuous time includes a continuous time of a state in which connection/disconnection of each display device is unchanged and no operation is effected by an input device (col. 6, line 62-col. 7, line 10).

In regards to claims 5 and 12, Shimotono discloses the electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the setting unit enables designation of application/non-application of automatic power-off and designation of the wait time on the setting screen with respect to each of the plurality of display devices (col. 6, lines 36-45; it is inherent for the setting unit enables designation of application/non-application of automatic power-off and designation of the wait time on the setting screen with respect to each of the plurality of display devices, otherwise there would be no need for such a unit).

In regards to claims 6 and 13, Shimotono discloses the electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the setting unit and the power-off execution unit are realized by a power saving management program, which is managed under an OS (col. 6, lines 36-45).

In regards to claims 7 and 14, Shimotono discloses the electronic apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising a BIOS which stores information relating to devices connected to the electronic apparatus (col. 5, lines 45-50), wherein the power saving management program transmits/receives information relating to each of the plurality of display devices to/from the BIOS (col. 5, lines 45-50; since the BIOS is a Basic Input/Output System for the input and output of signals for hardware components, then it is inherent that the power saving management program transmits/receives information relating to each of the plurality of display devices to/from the BIOS).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3-4 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimotono in view of Clark et al (US 5,513,359).

In regards to claims 3 and 10, Shimotono does not disclose the electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the power-off execution unit monitors whether the continuous time reaches the wait time with respect to each of the plurality of display devices, regardless of a display state of a mouse pointer on a screen.

Clark discloses the electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the power-off execution unit monitors whether the continuous time reaches the wait time with respect to each of the plurality of display devices, regardless of a display state of a mouse pointer on a screen (col. 5, lines 41-56 and col. 6, lines 18-21).

It would have been obvious at the time of invention to modify Shimotono with the teachings of Clark, monitoring idle time regardless of an active window or mouse pointer, by incorporating the teachings of Clark into the device of Shimotono because it further enhances power conservation since all displays would be turned off.

In regards to claims 4 and 11, Shimotono does not disclose the electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the power-off execution unit monitors whether the continuous time reaches the wait time with respect to each of the plurality of display devices, regardless of presence/absence of an active window on a screen.

Clark discloses the electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the power-off execution unit monitors whether the continuous time reaches the wait time with

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respect to each of the plurality of display devices, regardless of presence/absence of an active window on a screen (col. 5, lines 41-56 and col. 6, lines 18-21).

It would have been obvious at the time of invention to modify Shimotono with the teachings of Clark, monitoring idle time regardless of an active window or mouse pointer, by incorporating the teachings of Clark into the device of Shimotono because it further enhances power conservation since all displays would be turned off.

### ***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Pervan whose telephone number is (571) 272-0910. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday between 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Amr Awad can be reached on (571) 272-7764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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MVP  
Jan. 19, 2007

AMR A. AWAD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amr A. Awad", written over a horizontal line.